

4

# JOURNAL

OF THE

ELEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Protestant Church,

HELD IN

*LYNCHBURG, VA.*

MAY, 1874.

---

BALTIMORE:

WM. J. C. DULANY & CO. BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS,

332 West Baltimore Street.







JOURNAL  
OF THE  
ELEVENTH GENERAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE  
METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

---

On Friday, May 1st, 1874, the Eleventh General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, commenced its Sessions at Lynchburg, Va.

Rev. Jno. Paris, of North Carolina, was elected temporary Chairman, and proceeded to formally open the Conference with appropriate religious exercises. J. W. Charlton, of Maryland, was elected Secretary *pro tem*.

On motion, L. W. Bates, J. G. Johnson and C. W. Button, were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The following from Certificates and other evidences satisfactory to the Conference, were recognized as Representatives to this body, viz:

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—M. J. Langhorne, George R. Barr, D. D., and J. G. Johnson, M. D.

*Laymen*—Isaac A. McQuown, S. K. Brooks and C. W. Button.

MARYLAND CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—L. W. Bates, D. D., D. A. Shermer, M. D., David Wilson, M. D., E. J. Drinkhouse, M. D., S. B. Southerland, D. D., D. W. Bates, J. W. Charlton, W. S. Hammond, W. M. Strayer, J. J. Murray, M. D., D. D., T. D. Valiant.

*Laymen*—W. J. C. Dulany, R. S. Griffith, W. B. Usilton, J. W. Thompson, Hon. O. Hammond, A. Donelson, Pere Wilmer, T. A. Newman, S. S. Ewell, M. D., J. A. Kennedy, Chas. Billingslea, D. D. S.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—John Paris, R. H. Wills, J. H. Gilbreath, J. R. Ball, A. C. Harris, M. D., J. L. Michaux, J. H. Page and T. H. Pegram.

*Laymen*—F. H. Whitaker, Prof. S. Simpson, A. B., W. A. Harris, W. J. Ellis, W. A. Lindsay, J. M. Odell, L. W. Batchelor, M. D., and J. L. Ogburne.



## NORTH TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—John Stone.*Layman*—J. W. Patrick.

## McCAINE CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—G. P. Miller.*Layman*—J. C. Wayland.

## COLORADO CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—E. Terry.*Layman*—J. J. Mabry.

On motion of L. W. Bates, E. J. Drinkhouse, F. H. M. Henderson, and B. S. Bibb, were appointed a Committee on Rules of Order; who subsequently reported those governing the last General Conference, which the Conference ordered to be printed, changing the third rule so as to read, "*Mister*," instead of "*Brother*," President.

The following Resolution, offered by D. Wilson, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That Revs. M. J. Langhorne and W. S. Hammond, in conjunction with Rev. D. L. Greenfield, Pastor of the M. P. Church, Lynchburg, be a committee on Pulpit Services.

On motion of J. J. Murray, it was

*Resolved*, to hold one session each day, from 9 o'clock, A. M. to 1½ P. M.

On motion of F. H. M. Henderson, the following Order of Business was adopted:

1. Calling the Roll.
2. Reading and Correction of the Minutes.
3. Reception and Reference of Memorials and Communications.
4. Reception of Reports.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Take up Reports, in the Order of Presentation.
7. Incidental Business.

After some discussion, the Conference proceeded to the election of permanent Officers, with the following result: for President, L. W. Bates; for Secretary, A. C. Harris and J. B. Watson.

Conference adjourned, with Doxology and Benediction.

## SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY, *May 2d*, 1874.

Conference convened at 9 o'clock, A. M., the President in the Chair. Religious exercises by Rev. O. Lowther.

The President announced the usual Committees, ordered yesterday:

*Journals*.—George Nestor, John G. Johnston, John Burdine, C. E. Crenshaw, and J. W. Adamson—5.



## GEORGIA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—Prof. F. H. M. Henderson and J. O. A. Radford.

*Laymen*—J. W. Adamson, Hon. J. B. McDaniel.

## ALABAMA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—G. H. McFaden, D. J. Sampley, and W. J. Nolen.

*Laymen*—Hon. B. S. Bibb, C. E. Crenshaw and A. H. Townsend.

## WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—Geo. Nestor, O. Lowther, G. W. Barrett, Jno. Clark, W. M. Betts, H. P. F. King, and Eli F. Westfall.

*Laymen*—J. B. Watson, M. D., Prof. A. T. Cralle, Hon. B. Jackson, Wm. Vanderwort, W. J. Lowther, Samuel Saylor, and J. H. Curray.

## SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—John Burdine.

*Layman*—Lewis Yarborough.

## TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—W. J. Finley.

*Layman*—Wm. Collins.

## TEXAS CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—G. W. Johnson, M. D.

*Layman*—Young Smith.

## PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—J. K. Helmbold.

*Layman*—John Kitson.

## INDIANA CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—G. W. Boxell.

*Layman*—J. Rodgers.

## MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—E. Red.

*Layman*—W. B. Nance.

## ILLINOIS AND DES MOINES CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—John Sexsmith.

*Layman*—Orestes Ames.

## ARKANSAS AND LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

*Ministers*—J. W. Harper and J. M. P. Hickerson, LL. D., D. D.

*Laymen*—W. F. Wallace, Elijah Hearn, M. D.

## WEST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

*Minister*—J. A. Fuzzell.

*Layman*—J. T. Ray.



tendents, subject to the confirmation of the Quarterly Conference: which was referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

The following paper, presented by David Wilson and D. A. Shermer, was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

As many of our fathers were denied the use, and debarred the privilege of the occupancy of Churches, in whole or in part erected by their own contributions, and as we recognize it as an unquestioned Apostolic arrangement that to the laity of the Church was entrusted the control and regulation of all its secular interests, the Trustees shall therefore have power, when authorized by two-thirds of the male members, over the age of 21 years, assembled at a regular meeting for the purpose, to purchase, build, repair, lease, sell, rent, change the location, mortgage or otherwise procure or dispose of Church property. But as Church property is always held in the character of bequests for specific purposes, it shall in no case, be deemed competent for the local congregation—without the consent of the Annual Conference, to transfer those interests to any others than those to whom they were entrusted.

On motion of J. J. Murray and E. J. Drinkhouse, the Committee on Journals was requested to report as early as practicable, what changes in the Constitution have been recommended by two-thirds of the Annual Conferences.

The following Resolution, by John Paris and R. H. Wills, was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

*Resolved*, That the following words be inserted after the words "*Quarterly Conference*," in the fourth line of section 4, page 50, Book of Discipline: "pass an approved examination by a committee appointed by the Annual Conference."

Resolution by E. J. Drinkhouse and W. S. Hammond, referred to a Committee of five, "to revise the Discipline:"

*Resolved*, That sections 11 and 14, on pages 53 and 54 of the Discipline, together with the form of ordination of Deacons, be stricken from the Discipline.

The President appointed E. J. Drinkhouse, C. W. Button, G. R. Barr, F. H. Whitaker, and W. J. C. Dulany, to constitute said Committee.

W. B. Usilton and J. W. Thompson, offered the following paper, which was referred to the Committee on Means of Grace:

Amend, under head of "Public Worship," at the end of third line, page 97, of Discipline, by inserting "which reading may be responsive; the Minister officiating reading the first verse, and the congregation the second, and so on, throughout the lesson."

The following Resolution, by D. A. Shermer and D. Wilson, was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

*Resolved*, That item 7, in the Order of Business, recommended to the several Quarterly Conferences, page 49 of the Discipline, namely: "attend to additions and corrections of the register," refers exclusively to the register of the male members, in full membership, over the age of 21 years—as referred to on page 46, section 6—and has no reference to the record of members provided for on page 67, section 8.

R. H. Wills, and J. L. Michaux, offered the following paper; referred to the Committee on Revisions of Discipline:

1. Reconcile Discipline page 35, under head of trial, etc. with page 72, section 6.
2. Page 41, line 17, supply the word "or."



*Boundaries.*—G. R. Barr, W. J. Finley, R. H. Wills, J. H. Gilbreath, and J. R. Ball—5.

*Judiciary.*—S. B. Southerland, B. S. Bibb, and J. W. Thompson—3.

*Executive.*—J. J. Murray, O. Lowther, and O. Hammond—3.

*Literature.*—F. H. M. Henderson, A. T. Cralle, and W. S. Hammond—3.

*Means of Grace.*—John Paris, E. J. Drinkhouse, and Pere Wilmer—3.

*Finance.*—C. W. Button, S. K. Brooks, and W. A. Lindsay—3.

*Home and Foreign Missions.*—M. J. Langhorne, A. Donelson, and J. A. Kennedy—3.

*Sabbath Schools.*—D. Wilson, W. B. Usilton, and S. S. Ewell—3.

*Temperance.*—J. L. Michaux, J. W. Charlton, and W. M. Strayer—3.

*Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications.*—D. W. Bates, G. W. Barrett, D. A. Shermer, C. W. Button, and W. J. C. Dulany—5.

The Roll of Conferences was called for Memorials and Communications:

A letter from Elisha Terry, ministerial; and J. J. Mabry, Lay Representative from Colorado District, was read, and referred to the Judiciary and Missionary Committees, and to the Committee on Journals.

A letter from E. C. G. Nickens, *Sec. pro tem.*, and President of South Illinois Annual Conference, was read and referred to the same Committees.

A letter from Thos. H. Brooks, Ministerial Representative from S. E. Missouri Annual Conference, was read and referred to the Executive and Missionary Committees.

A letter from John Stone, Ministerial, and Jonathan Patrick, Lay Representative from North Mississippi District, was read and referred to the Judiciary Committee, and to the Committees on Missions and Journals.

S. B. Southerland, and E. J. Drinkhouse, offered the following, "on the subject of admission to membership," page 35, Discipline:

*Resolved*, that the law be amended, so as to read "Quarterly Conference" in place of "Monthly Meeting," which was referred to the Executive Committee.

W. S. Hammond, and S. B. Southerland offered the following Resolution, which was referred to the Executive Committee:

*Resolved*, That Annual Conferences may appoint Ministers as Presidents, or Professors, or Agents in Educational Institutions; and as Editors or Agents of Religious Periodicals and Newspapers, and as Chaplains; without changing the relations of such ministers to the Annual Conference; and shall designate the Quarterly Conference relations of such appointees.

The following Resolution, by E. J. Drinkhouse and J. W. Charlton, was referred to the Finance Committee:

*Resolved*, That the fifth section of the Discipline, on page 46, be stricken out, as recommended by the Maryland Annual Conference, at its last session.

S. B. Southerland and J. J. Murray, offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the law in relation to Sabbath Schools, page 48, Discipline, be so amended, as to give Sabbath School teachers the power to elect Superin-



ing at the end of the third line, "which reading may be responsive." The suggestion to strike out the word "*effectual*," on page 104, line 13, was rejected.

The report of the Executive Committee was read, and, on motion of M. J. Langhorne, considered by items.

The first member coming up was amended and adopted in the following form:

*Resolved*, That the law (Discipline, page 35, paragraph 2,) be amended, so as to read: "Admission to full membership, in Stations, Circuits or Missions, shall be by a majority of the Church of which the applicant is a member. Persons in good standing, coming from any Church of a different denomination, shall be received in the same manner."

At 1½ o'clock the Doxology was sung and Conference adjourned.

#### FOURTH DAY.

TUESDAY, *May 5th*, 1874.

Conference was called to order by the President, and opened with religious exercises conducted by Rev. J. G. Johnson.

The Minutes of the proceedings of yesterday's session were read and adopted.

A communication from Rev. C. A. Pickens, of N. C., was read and referred to the Executive Committee.

The following paper, presented by G. W. Barrett and O. Lowther, was referred to the Committee on Boundaries:

"We respectfully request the Committee on Boundaries, to change the line of the West Virginia District, so as to run from Tazewell County, eastward to the top of the Blue Ridge, thence northward to the Maryland District."

Resolution of D. A. Shermer and W. B. Usilton was referred to the same committee:

*Resolved*, That the boundary line of the Maryland and Virginia Conferences, be so amended, that Lynchburg, Norfolk and Heathsville, be included in the Maryland District.

Resolution offered by J. W. Charlton and F. H. M. Henderson, was referred to the Committee on the Means of Grace:

*Resolved*, That the order of Public Worship, on page 97, of the Discipline, be amended, by inserting in the second line after the words "*consist of*," the following, "reading a selection from the Psalms;" and in the third line, insert the word "*another*," in the place of the letter "*a*," after the word reading.

The following paper, offered by G. R. Barr and E. J. Drinkhouse, was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

We respectfully suggest the following changes in the Discipline:

Section 1, Discipline, page 34, second line, add "*Mission*," after the word "*Circuit*."

Seventh line, after the words "*shall be*," strike out, "when there is no objection made by the class or society."

Twelfth line, after the word "probationers should there be no objection," strike out "*in the event*," to the word "*class*," inclusive, and insert after "*probationers*," the following: "Should there be an objection it shall be made to the



3. Page 42, under head of Quarterly Conference, omit all from the word "*in*," line 6, to word "*Circuit*" inclusive, line 7.

4. Page 49, under head of Annual Conference, line 6, change the word "*appointed*" to "*elected*."

5. Change item, Means of Grace, page 98, line 7, so as to read "*neglect any of the means of grace.*"

Also, on page 104, line 13, strike out the word "*effectual*," which was referred to the Committee on Means of Grace.

Resolution offered by W. M. Strayer and J. W. Charlton, referred to the Judiciary Committee :

*Resolved*, That the authority to correct the Quarterly Conference Register, is vested only in the Quarterly Conference, and that no other correction, by whomsoever made, can invalidate the standing of a member of the M. P. Church.

Extract from the report of the Committee on Temperance of the Maryland Conference, offered by J. W. Charlton and W. M. Strayer, and referred to the Committee on Temperance :

"Item 2, That we memorialize the General Conference, through our representatives, to give us such ecclesiastical legislation, as will protect our Churches from the reproach brought upon them, through those members who engage in the traffic of intoxicating liquors, or who use them as a beverage, or sign applications for liquor license."

On motion of D. Wilson and J. J. Murray, it was ordered, that 10 o'clock Tuesday morning be set apart for the meeting of the Convention on the Periodical and Book Concern.

C. E. Crenshaw and J. H. McQuown, offered the following:

Strike out the three closing last lines of page 34.

On motion of D. W. Bates, it was

*Resolved*, That the President of the Conference be authorized and requested to telegraph the fraternal greeting of this General Conference, to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session in Louisville, Kentucky.

The President announced the hour for adjournment; the Conference adjourned with Doxology, and Benediction by John Burdine.

### THIRD DAY.

MONDAY, *May 4th*, 1874.

The President in the Chair. Religious exercises conducted by M. J. Langhorne. The Minutes of Saturday's proceedings read and adopted.

A communication from Rev. John Sexsmith, of Illinois and Des Moines Mission Conference, was read and referred to the Committees on Missions, Boundaries and Journals.

Reports from the Committee on the Means of Grace—the Executive Committee—the Committee on Literature—the Committee on Sabbath Schools—on Journals, and the Judiciary Committee were submitted.

That, on Means of Grace was read, amended and adopted in the following form:—"Under the head of 'Public Worship,' by insert-



ral Conference of the M. E. Church, South, was read; and a motion prevailed, to record in the minutes, the communication sent, and that received.

LYNCHBURG, May 4th, 1874.

*To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference  
of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Louisville, Ky. Greeting:*

DEAR BRETHREN:—By order, and in behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, now in session; We salute you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our common Methodism, praying that Divine Wisdom may preside over your deliberations, and that great peace and prosperity may prevail in all your borders.

Yours, in Christ Jesus our Lord,

L. W. BATES, *President.*

A. C. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

LOUISVILLE, KY. May 5th, 1874.

*To Rev. L. W. BATES, President of the  
General Conference, M. P. Church:*

By order of the General Conference, and in behalf of the Bishops of the M. E. Church, South, we beg to state, that the communication from the General Conference of the M. P. Church, tendering their fraternal greetings, has been received with profound satisfaction. We cordially reciprocate the feelings of brotherly regard; and pray that God's blessing may rest abundantly upon your deliberations and communions.

W. W. WIGHTMAN, *President.*

T. O. SUMMERS, *Secretary.*

The following paper offered by O. Lowther and J. B. Watson, was referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools:

We respectfully pray the General Conference, to publish, or order a Sabbath School paper published, for the M. P. Church, and a monthly paper for the benefit of Sabbath School Teachers.

A voluminous communication from Rev. A. G. Brewer, of Alabama, was presented by the President, and on motion was referred to the Committee on Revision of the Discipline.

R. H. Wills and W. J. Ellis offered the following, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee:

*Resolved*, That promiscuous dancing is not for the glory of God, has an evil tendency—both in the case of those engaged, and respecting others—and therefore, is condemned as a sin by the M. P. Church; subjects the offender to admonition, and if persisted in, to expulsion.

Resolution by D. Wilson and E. J. Drinkhouse, referred to the Judiciary Committee:

That the term *representative*, be substituted for that of *delegate*, in the Book of Discipline.

A paper offered by David Wilson and S. S. Ewell, recommending the addition of the words "*when present*," to the 12th section, page 68, of the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Report No. 4, from the Judiciary Committee, and No. 1, from the Committee on Temperance, were laid on the Secretary's table.

The report of the Committee on Journals, No. 1, was taken up, and adopted as follows:



Superintendent, or the person officiating, privately; when the Superintendent, in conjunction with the Class Leader, and another male member, whom he may select, shall investigate the objection made. Should the objection be valid, the name of the applicant shall not be enrolled as a probationer, on a Circuit, Station, or Mission."

Reports from the Committee on Journals, No. 2,—the Judiciary Committee, No. 2,—Means of Grace, No. 2,—Finance and the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions, were submitted.

The unfinished business of yesterday—the consideration of the report of the Executive Committee—was continued, the second item of the report being read was adopted as follows:

In regard to the matter included in the resolution offered by W. S. Hammond and S. B. Southerland, (on Saturday,) the Committee recommend the following:

On page 79, after third paragraph, insert a new paragraph, to wit: "Ministers appointed by the Annual Conference to which they belong, to serve as Presidents or Professors of Institutions of Learning;—as Editors of Religious Newspapers or Periodicals;—as Chaplains, or Agents to promote any religious or literary undertaking, in which the Church is directly interested; shall be subject to the same regulations that apply to Home Missionaries, and shall be entitled to all the privileges that pertain to the same.

"The Conference shall designate the Quarterly Conference to which said ministers shall be attached."

The order of the day—the meeting of the Committee on the Book Concern and Periodical—having been announced, C. W. Button was called to the Chair and W. S. Hammond elected Secretary,

After the adjournment of the Convention, subject to the call of the Chairman, the Conference resumed its business.

On motion of D. Wilson and J. B. Watson, it was

*Resolved*, to strike out of Article 1st, page 34, 14th and 15th and 16th lines, "to the monthly meeting in Stations, and in Circuits, to the Superintendent, and Leader of the Class," and insert, "To a called, or regularly occurring meeting of the Church."

The report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was taken up; and the Conference adjourned at half-past one, to meet again at four o'clock P. M.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON, *May 5th*, 1874.

The report under consideration at the hour of adjournment, was considered and amended, so as to read,

On page 48, section 12, of Discipline, strike out all after the word "*thereof*," and insert the following, "Shall be elected by the Sabbath School officers and teachers, subject to confirmation by the Church."

#### FIFTH DAY.

#### WEDNESDAY, *May 6th*, 1874.

At nine o'clock, A. M., Conference was called to order by the President. Religious exercises conducted by Rev. R. H. Wills. A telegram from the presiding Bishop, and Secretary of the Gene-



appointed by the Annual Conference;" insert "*have*" after "*or*," immediately following.

Report No. 2, Judiciary Committee, as adopted :

They recommend the adoption of the following paper submitted by D. A. Shermer :

*Resolved*, that Item 7th in the Order of Business, recommended to the several Quarterly Conferences, page 49 of the Discipline, namely : "Attend to additions and corrections of the Register," refers exclusively to the register of male members in full membership over the age of 21 years, as referred to on page 46, section 6; and has no reference to the record of members provided for on page 67, section 8.

The Committee do not recommend the adoption of the paper submitted by Bro. W. M. Strayer, as they consider that the paper of Dr. Shermer, covers all that is necessary in the case.

Conference adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Kenney of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

---

## SIXTH DAY.

THURSDAY, *May 7th*, 1874.

The Conference was opened with religious exercises, conducted by Rev. Geo. Nestor. The President in the Chair.

A communication from the Rev. William Trogdon, President of North Arkansas Conference, was presented and referred to the Committees on the Revisal of the Discipline and on Journals.

Reports from the Committee on Means of Grace, No. 2, and from the Judiciary Committee were laid on the Secretary's table.

Rev. R. B. Thompson, D. D., of the Virginia Conference, was elected to Honorary Membership in this General Conference.

Rev. Wesley Kenney, D. D., Fraternal Messenger from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was introduced, and addressed the Conference; the President of the Conference responding.

The report of the Committee on Journals, No. 2, was taken up and pending discussion, the Conference adjourned. Benediction by Rev. M. J. Langhorne.

---

## SEVENTH DAY.

FRIDAY, *May 8th*, 1874.

The Conference was opened with religious exercises, conducted by Rev. John Burdine. The President called the Conference to order and directed the call of the roll. The Minutes of the proceedings of yesterday's Session were read and adopted.

The papers, in the "Appeal from the decision of the Maryland Annual Conference, taken by Jacob D. Wilson, Supt. of, and in behalf of the 1st Methodist Protestant Church, Washington, D. C.," were referred to a special Committee of five—appointed by the Conference, consisting of W. J. Finley, B. S. Bibb, F. H. M. Henderson, C. E. Crenshaw and F. H. Whitaker.



The Committee on Journals, beg leave to report in part, as follows: That they find in the second volume, and on pages 68, 71, 72, 73, 78 and 79, of the Journal of the Maryland District, an appeal from the decision of the Annual Conference of said District, on a question of law, referred to the Conference by the First Methodist Protestant Church, of Washington City, requesting the Conference to define the meaning of the last clause of section 1st, on the 16th page of the Constitution; and to explain the rule or law on the dedication of Churches.

Your Committee after a careful examination of the whole proceedings had in reference to this matter, and examination of the law in the case, believe the action of the Maryland Conference to be in accordance therewith, and recommend that this General Conference sanction their action.

### Report of the Committee on Literature, adopted, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this General Conference, the education of the masses, whose suffrage directs the polity and shapes the destiny of a representative Church, is necessary to the healthy growth and permanent success of the Methodist Protestant Church.

2. *Resolved*, therefore, That it is the duty of the General Conference, of the Annual and Quarterly Conferences, of the Churches and membership, to encourage, aid and sustain all enterprizes whose aim is to educate our future membership.

3. *Resolved, further*, That while we are conscious that ministers are called of God to their holy work, yet we fully believe that they should *study* to become workmen that need not be ashamed; and therefore, the interest of the Church demands that Institutions of Learning be established, which will afford ample facilities for high mental culture and theological instruction.

4. *Resolved, further*, That we regret the almost universal absence of such institutions, controlled by our Conference.

5. *Resolved, further*, That we are proud to mention as an exception, the Yadkin College in the North Carolina District; an Institution with liberal franchises, favorable locality, and flattering patronage; yet lifting imploring hands to the brethren of the Conference, who, perhaps, too little appreciate its importance.

6. *Resolved, further*, That we are glad to name as another exception, the West Virginia Institute, recently organized, with fair prospect of success, yet still wanting the endowment which will render it permanent and to the highest degree useful.

7. *Resolved, further*, That we learn with pleasure, that the Annual Conference of the Georgia District, have a liberal proposal from the Trustees of Bowden College, by which that Institution, with its franchises and five thousand dollars of property, is tendered, on condition of a reasonable endowment, and we hope these brethren will appreciate and improve an advantage so rarely offered.

8. *Resolved, further*, That the Western Maryland College is the pride of our Church, in an educational point of view, and deserves the high commendation of all the Conferences, for its rapid growth, present success, and its prospects for the future. Especially do we commend the Theological Department of that Institution to the careful consideration and liberal patronage of all the Annual Conferences, and recommend that each Annual Conference, if possible, send one or more students to this department.

9. *Resolved, further*, That each Annual Conference should labor to sustain, under its own control, at least one institution of learning, which will afford good disciplinary training to both sexes of our growing youth; and that all the Conferences should unite to enlarge Western Maryland College into a Central University, which will afford the highest grade of instruction in all departments of art, science and literature.

10. *Resolved, finally*, That the delegates of this General Conference be requested to present these Resolutions to their respective Annual Conferences, and to urge the importance of the subject upon our membership.

Report No. 1, Committee on Judiciary, was adopted, as follows:

After the words "Quarterly Conference," in the fourth line, section 4, page 50, Book of Discipline, insert, "and pass an approved examination by a Committee



## EIGHTH DAY.

SATURDAY, *May 9th*, 1874.

The President took the Chair at 9 o'clock, A. M. Conference was opened with religious services, conducted by Rev. J. H. Gilbreath.

Report No. 3. Committee on Journals, was presented.

D. W. Bates, Chairman of the Committee on Ecclesiastical Visitors and Communications, announced that Rev. Alexander Clark and J. Robison were in attendance, from the Methodist Church, but not as accredited messengers; they were invited to address the Conference on Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

Reports from Committee of Revision of the Discipline, No. 2; and from the Special Committee on the appeal case from Washington, were presented.

Report of Committee on Home and Foreign Mission was adopted, as follows:

1. It is to us, and it must also be to every member of this General Conference, a source of sincere regret, that as a Church we have done so little for either Domestic or Foreign Missions; nor can we reasonably hope for great success within our own borders so long as we continue to neglect these great interests.

The commission of the Great Head of the Church—"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature"—is as binding and obligatory upon us as it is upon any other branch of the Church of Christ. Therefore we recommend that this General Conference shall make it obligatory on the respective Annual Conferences of the M. P. Church to form Missionary Societies, and *require* each itinerant Minister to make collections at every church on the Circuits or Stations, for both Domestic and Foreign Missions, and that all the funds collected yearly for Foreign Missions shall be placed in the hands of our Board of Missions, and they shall feel free to unite with any one of the sister denominations in sustaining and supporting a foreign Missionary—claiming, however, for the M. P. Church her recognition and full share of influence.

2. We have had under consideration the letters of Rev. Jno. Sexsmith, of the Illinois and Des Moines District, and Rev. Thomas H. Brooks, of the South-East Missouri District: but as those brethren only express their own opinions and wishes, without any official authority to act—your Committee do not feel at liberty to make any recommendations.

3. The official report from the Colorado District, we have very carefully considered, and would recommend: 1st. If our Board of Mission can secure a Minister who will be willing to go to that District as a Missionary, on the condition proposed, they be authorized to employ and send him there. 2d. As regards the situation and condition of the colored members of that District, who have been so true and faithful in their devotion to the Church: we very heartily agree with the representatives of said Conference, that this General Conference should not delay in trying to provide for, and take care of them: and we respectfully suggest that this Conference authorize the President of the Colorado District, to organize them into classes—and if necessary for their prosperity—to found a Colored Mission Conference.

4. We would recommend the following Brethren as the Board of Missions—Rev. S. B. Southerland, D. D., Rev. R. S. Rowe, Rev. F. Swentzel, M. D., Rev. Thomas McCormick, Rev. H. T. Gernhardt, and Brothers W. S. Greenwood, F. A. Fairbank, J. G. Clarke, William Bond, J. E. A. Cunningham, Jas. Bond and James Frame.

5. In conclusion, we recommend the name of the "Home and Foreign Mission" be changed, and called Domestic and Foreign Mission.

Report of the Judiciary Committee, No. 3:



F. H. M. Henderson and J. A. McQuown offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Means of Grace:

*Resolved*, That the order of Religious services for laying the corner-stone of a church, page 182; and the order of Dedication, page 189, now in use by the Maryland Conference, be made a part of the ritual of the Methodist Protestant Church.

A motion by R. H. Wills, restricting debate to ten minutes, was adopted.

Reports of the Judiciary Committee, No. 5, and from the Committee on Means of Grace, No. 3, were presented.

Unfinished business of yesterday. Consideration of the Report of the Committee on Journals, No. 2, was taken up, and the first item (being under consideration) was read, amended and adopted: and the report adopted, *as amended*, as follows:

Your Committee on Annual Conference Journals beg leave respectfully to report, that in consequence of a failure of so great a number of the Conferences to send up the journals of their official acts, the Committee deem it almost inexpedient to make out any report for publication in our General Conference doings, as it must be very incomplete and unsatisfactory to the Conference, in regard to the proposed changes in the Constitution (by two-thirds of the Annual Conferences) recommended by the Maryland Annual Conference resolutions.

Your Committee, however, would say that out of the twenty-three Annual Conferences, only thirteen have officially acted upon the proposed changes, as far as we know, from the journals put in our hands for examination.

Seven of the Conferences voted in the affirmative, that is to say—Virginia, South Carolina, Maryland, North Illinois and Des Moines, South Illinois, Georgia and Holston.

In Colorado, the first and second sections were lost, but the remaining, third and fourth, were concurred in unanimously.

The Tennessee Conference declared by resolution "said changes are at present inexpedient."

Texas Conference adopted all but the recommendation as to the 12th article of the Constitution.

Two of the Conferences voted in the negative, namely: North Carolina and West Virginia.

Alabama took no decisive action, but referred the matter to the vote of the several churches in their District, and we have no report of their action.

1. *Resolved*, That any Annual Conference failing to send its Journal to the General Conference, according to the requirement of the Constitution on page 21 of the Discipline, without sufficient reason, shall be liable to lose its membership in said General Conference, by a vote thereof.

2. *Resolved*, That the above resolution be inserted in the book of Discipline, on page 61, and be added to the 14th item of Annual Conference business.

Under a suspension of the Rules, it was ordered that the words "*Church Register*," on pages 162 and 163, be stricken out, and "*Superintendent's Record*," substituted.

Report of "the Finance Committee, to whom was referred the Resolution of E. J. Drinkhouse, touching the 5th section, page 76, of Discipline, recommend that the aforementioned section be stricken out, agreeably to the Resolution." Adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Temperance was read, and under discussion, when the hour of adjournment was announced, and the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. John Burdine.



sion into Conference, and for orders shall be examined; that all applicants for orders or admission into Conference, may have a proper understanding of the grade of attainments necessary, and direct their studies accordingly."

S. S. Ewell and O. Hammond offered the following, which was also referred to the Committee of Revision of the Discipline:

*Resolved*, That all Stations and Circuits shall have the same right of appeal from the appointing authorities of the Annual Conferences, that Ministers and Preachers have.

PROTEST.—We, the undersigned, who voted in the negative on abolishing the order of Deacon in the M. P. Church, feeling it to be a great innovation in the Church, and on New Testament precedent and teaching—and feeling conscience bound by the act of the General Conference, abolishing this New Testament order, do solemnly protest against the aforesaid act, and desire this protest spread upon the record of the General Conference.

O. LOWTHER.  
JNO. PARIS.  
A. C. HARRIS.

At 6½ o'clock the Conference adjourned, with the Doxology and Benediction.

## NINTH DAY.

MONDAY, *May 11th*, 1874.

The President in the Chair. Religious exercises conducted by Rev. G. H. McFadden. The Minutes of Saturday's proceedings read and, as corrected, adopted.

A communication from Illinois and Des Moines, Mission Conference was referred to the Committee on Journals.

Also a communication from J. W. Harper, addressed to and read by Rev. D. Wilson.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Sabbath Schools was presented.

The Conference took up the Report of the Committee on Boundaries, and after amending second item, adopted the Report as follows:

1. That the line of West Virginia District be so changed, as to run from Tazewell County, Virginia, eastward to the top of the Blue Bidge, thence northward to the line of the Maryland District.

2. That the boundary lines of the Maryland and Virginia Districts, be so changed or amended, as to include Lynchburg Station, (including Tyriana,) in the Maryland District.

3. We further report, that at the meeting of the Annual Conference of the Holston District, on the 18th October, 1873, resolutions and terms were adopted, looking to a union of the Holston and Virginia Districts; and at the meeting of the Annual Conference of the Virginia District, November, 1873, the union of the Conferences was consummated—the united Conferences to be known and recognized as the Virginia District; and to embrace all that part of the Virginia District, not embraced in the Maryland and West Virginia Districts; and all that part of East Tennessee not embraced in the Tennessee District.

And now, as your Committee have recommended a change in the boundary of the Maryland and Virginia Districts, they recommend that the Virginia District embrace all in said District east of the Blue Ridge, not included in the Maryland Conference; and all of East Tennessee not embraced in the Tennessee Conference; and that the Holston District be stricken from the roll of Conferences.



Insert the word "*mission*" in the Discipline, after the word "*circuit*," in the second line, page 34.

After the words "*shall be*," in the 7th line, strike out the words, "*when there is no objection made by the class or society*," as suggested in the paper offered by G. R. Barr.

The third suggestion having been provided for, the Committee recommend that the mover have permission to withdraw it.

Report of the Committee on Revision of the Discipline, as adopted:

1. We recommend that everything in the Discipline, authorizing an order of Deacon in the Methodist Protestant Church, together with the form of Ordination, and credential—be stricken out; as recommended by E. J. Drinkhouse and W. S. Hammond:—the yeas and nays being called the result was, yeas, 18 Ministers and 17 Laymen; nays 10 Ministers and 6 Laymen.

2. We report against the paper offered by C. E. Crenshaw and J. A. McQuown, to "strike out the three closing lines on page 34 of Discipline," which requires baptism as a condition of full membership in the Church.

3. We recommend, according to paper offered by R. H. Wills and J. L. Michaux, to change the word "*appointed*," on page 49 of Discipline, 5th line from bottom, to "*elected*."

4. We report against changing line 7, page 98 of Discipline, as proposed, in the same paper, under "*Means of Grace*," by introducing the words "*any of*," after the word "*neglect*."

We recommend in the same connection, that the word "*and*" be inserted between the words "*wilfully*" and "*habitually*."

5. We recommend, according to the same paper, that in order to reconcile the Discipline with the Constitution, touching the admonition and trial of offenders, that we insert on page 35 of the Discipline, under "*Trials*," after the word "*Conduct*," line 14—the words "*after repeated admonitions*." That all of Section 6th, page 72 of the Discipline, be stricken from the book, except so much as shall read "It shall be the duty of each leader to report to the Superintendent the members of his class whom he believes may require the exercise of discipline; nevertheless, it is competent for any other member to prefer charges."

The Rules were suspended for the introduction and consideration of a paper read by T. D. Valiant.

A session of Conference, from 3½ to 6½ o'clock this afternoon, was agreed to. Conference adjourned at 1½ o'clock.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The discussion of the paper offered by T. D. Valiant was continued. A motion to lay on the table did not prevail—but a motion by C. W. Button "to postpone further consideration till Monday morning, 11 o'clock," was adopted.

On motion of D. W. Bates and J. W. Charlton—amended on motion of D. Wilson—it was

*Resolved*, That on page 53 of Discipline, section 10, the words *Elder's Orders* shall be inserted, after the words "*eligible to*," so as to read, "Every preacher shall be eligible to Elder's Orders, after he shall have preached 3 years," &c.

John Paris and J. R. Ball offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Revision of the Discipline:

*Resolved*, by this General Conference—that the Discipline, page 54, section 16, shall be amended by adding "Each Annual Conference shall adopt, and keep upon its records or Journal, a schedule of studies upon which candidates for admis-



vious question being called and sustained, the report was read three times and adopted, with great unanimity, as follows—(the blanks being subsequently filled by order of the Conference:)

WHEREAS, this General Conference is satisfied that there is a growing desire on the part of the membership of the M. P. Church to hold a General Convention to take into consideration certain changes in the Constitution of the Church—Therefore,

*Resolved*, That we recommend the Annual Conferences composing the Methodist Protestant Church, to unite unanimously in a call for a General Convention for the purpose of effecting such changes in the 2nd, 10th and 14th Articles of the Constitution of the M. P. Church as may be deemed by said Convention necessary, together with such alterations in all other articles of the Constitution and book of Discipline, as they may judge proper.

2 *Resolved*, That said Convention shall meet at Abingdon, Va., on the first Friday in May, 1878.

3. *Resolved*, That a committee of nine persons be appointed by this General Conference to confer with any like commission from any Methodist body in America, who may signify a desire to confer with them, upon the subject of union with the M. P. Church; and especially with a Committee of 9, to be appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Church, which has made overtures to us for a reunion, believing it to be the desire of the majority of the members of the Methodist Church to effect a union of the Methodist and Methodist Protestant Churches, upon terms which shall be alike agreeable and honorable to each; and to submit the terms of union to the General Convention hereinbefore provided for.

4. *Resolved*, That said Commissioners shall be appointed as follows: 2 Ministers and 1 Layman from Maryland; 1 Minister and 1 Layman from West Virginia; 1 Minister and 1 Layman from North Carolina; 1 Layman from Virginia, and 1 Minister from Tennessee. The representatives from the respective Conferences shall nominate by ballot from among their own number, to be confirmed by this General Conference.

In the event of the death of any Commissioner thus chosen before the time of meeting as heretofore named, the standing District Committee of the Conference having the vacancy shall have power to name a substitute.

The following are the nine Commissioners elected under the 4th Resolution:

L. W. Bates, D. D., S. B. Southerland, D. D., and Hon. O. Hammond, from Maryland Conference.

Rev. E. F. Westfall and W. V. Chidester, of West Virginia Conference.

Rev. R. H. Wills and Prof. S. Simpson, A. B. of North Carolina Conference.

Dr. M. T. Peoples, of Virginia, and

Rev. B. F. Duggan, M. D., of Tennessee.

Conference adjourned. Benediction by the President.

## TENTH DAY.

TUESDAY, May 12th, 1874.

Report on Journals, No. 3, was taken up, corrected and adopted:

We have examined the Journals, printed minutes and communications of the several Annual Conferences before us, and have found the Journals pretty generally in keeping with the Discipline of the Church, and from these make the following statistical report:



Revs. Alexander Clarke and J. Robison, of the Methodist Church, being introduced, addressed the Conference, and were responded to by L. W. Bates, President.

The consideration of the paper offered by Rev. T. D. Valiant, being the order of the day—after reading, and pending the discussion, a motion of S. B. Southerland was agreed to, to consider the paper this afternoon in secret session.

On motion of Rev. E. J. Drinkhouse, the Conference went into Convention on the Book Concern and Periodical.

After the adjournment of the Convention, the Conference resumed business, and Report No. 2 of Committee on Revision of the Discipline, was taken up, considered by items, and adopted, as follows:

1. That the General Conference acknowledge the receipt of the communication from our venerable brother in Christ, Rev. A. G. Brewer, of Montgomery, Alabama.

We recommend that, in view of the valuable historical matter it contains, the document be preserved among the archives of the General Conference, and that the Publishing Committee of this body be requested to have transferred to the columns of the church organ, such portions of it as they may regard of general interest.

Your Committee do not deem it respectful to the author of the communication, to attempt any further reply, than to suggest that the alterations in the constitution, made by the Convention at Montgomery, Alabama, in 1867, not having been challenged, according to Article 15, they became the law of the Church, in such default, and that this General Conference has no power of revision.

2. Your Committee report adversely on the letter from Rev. Wm. Trogden, proposing that the word "President" in the Discipline, be changed to that of "Evangelist."

3. Your Committee recommend that all the explanatory resolutions passed by General Conferences shall be collected and published as a supplement to the Discipline.

conference took recess till four o'clock.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference opened with prayer by Rev. E. J. Drinkhouse. Papers were presented by J. J. Murray, D. Wilson, J. W. Charlton and E. J. Drinkhouse, read, and after consultation, referred with the paper of Rev. T. D. Valiant, to a Committee composed of John Paris, O. Lowther, M. J. Langhorne, J. L. Michaux, B. S. Bibb, W. J. Finley and R. H. Wills—with the request that they mature a plan which will harmonize the conflicting opinions on the subjects contained therein, and report their action this evening at 8 o'clock.

Conference took recess.

#### 8 o'clock, P. M., EVENING SESSION.

The Conference was called to order, and resolved into Convention on the Book Concern and Periodical.

After the adjournment of the Convention, the Conference resumed business; when Rev. John Paris, from the Committee appointed this afternoon, submitted the report of the Committee. The pre-



The manufacture, sale and use of Intoxicating Liquor as a beverage; or the lending of one's influence by signature or otherwise, in the procurement of license to sell Alcoholic beverages; is, in the opinion of this General Conference, manifestly in opposition to the teaching of God's Word.

Abingdon, Virginia, was selected as the place for holding the next General Conference on the first Friday in May, 1878.

On motion of J. J. Murray and J. W. Thompson:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference be tendered to the President and Secretaries for the ability, courtesy and faithfulness with which they have performed the duties of their respective offices.

On motion of W. J. C. Dulany and J. W. Charlton:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference be tendered all Railroad Companies, which have extended the members of this Conference courtesy in reduction of fare.

On motion of M. J. Langhorne:

*Resolved*, That we highly appreciate the courtesy of Pastors and members of the churches, of this city, in extending to us the use of their houses for worship during the present session of our General Conference.

On motion of W. H. Lindsay and others:

*Resolved*, That we extend to the friends in Lynchburg, who have so heartily entertained the members of this Conference, our most hearty thanks for their generosity and hospitality, in so kindly entertaining us.

The Conference resolved itself into the Convention on the Periodical and Book Concern. After the adjournment of the Convention, the Conference resumed its business, and a motion to hold an afternoon session at 3½ o'clock prevailed. Adjourned at 1½ o'clock. Benediction pronounced by the Secretary.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

On motion of J. H. Gilbreath and R. H. Wills, it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference are due, and they are hereby tendered to the Editors of the Methodist Protestant for their generous and gratuitous services in conducting the paper.

The Committee on Revision,

1. Recommend, that all after the word "Church" in line 15, page 41 of Discipline, down to the word "of" in line 17, be stricken out, and the following inserted:—"but of some other church or churches in the Circuit of which the accused is a component part; or."

2. We report against the suggestion of S. S. Ewell and O. Hammond, giving the same right of appeal to Churches as to Ministers—for the reason that it requires a change in Art. 7, of the Constitution, over which this General Conference has no control.

3. We report against the proposition of J. Paris and J. R. Ball, for the reason, that each Annual Conference has now power to enjoin such a "course of study" if that recommended on pages 153, 154 and 155 be unsatisfactory.

Report of the Committee on Means of Grace:

Your Committee on Means of Grace, to whom was referred a paper signed by J. W. Charlton and F. H. M. Henderson, and proposing a small alteration in the form of worship as laid down in the book of Discipline, page 97, beg leave to report adversely to the proposed change, as set forth in said paper.



	<i>Ministers.</i>	<i>Members.</i>	<i>Ch. Property.</i>
Maryland Conference.....	103	13,012	\$768,660
Alabama Conference.....	32	2,874	56,020
Texas Conference.....	29	1,263	4,000
South Carolina Conference.....	19	1,039	4,175
North Mississippi Conference.....	23	1,100	3,500
West Virginia Conference.....	97	7,498	71,450
Georgia Conference.....	44	2,067	13,480
Tennessee Conference.....	17	1,100	7,800
Illinois and Des Moines Conference.....	6	500	10,000
North Carolina Conference.....	48	8,481	48,200
Colorado Conference.....	11	472	1,780
Virginia and Holston Conference.....	35	3,500	80,000
Indiana Conference.....	24	1,890	26,500
Arkansas and Louisiana Conference.....	—	2,168	—
Mississippi Conference.....	6	291	—
North Arkansas Conference.....	41	1,424	—
Pennsylvania Conference.....	11	640	26,786
Total.....	546	49,319	1,122,351

The following Conferences are not heard from, viz: \* Arkansas and Louisiana, \*North Arkansas, Missouri, South Illinois, \*Pennsylvania, \*Indiana and McCaine.

Report No. 5, of the Judiciary Committee, on the paper offered by R. H. Wills and W. J. Ellis, "regards the subject-matter inexpedient for General Conference legislation."

The same Committee reported (No. 6,) unfavorably upon the resolution offered by David Wilson and E. J. Drinkhouse, substituting the term "*representative*," for that of "delegate."

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was read, considered by items, and adopted:

Having considered Resolution of Rev. Oliver Lowther, recommending the publication of a Sunday School Monthly, and Sunday School Children's Paper. Report,

1. That we recommend the publication of a Sunday School Teachers' Journal, by the Book Directory, so soon as it shall be ascertained that such Journal can be published without pecuniary loss.

2. That we report unfavorably on that part of the resolution which suggests the publication of a Sunday School Children's Paper; the cost of such publication being in the opinion of the Committee, beyond the present resources of the Church. Your Committee take great pleasure in recommending to all our Sunday Schools, "Morning Guide," published by the Book Concern of The Methodist Church, as an ably conducted and valuable Sunday School Paper.

Report of the Committee on the Appeal from Washington, adopted:

The Special Committee to whom was referred the appeal taken by J. D. Wilson, on behalf of the First Methodist Protestant Church, Washington, D. C. beg leave to report:

That we have examined the paper referred to us, and find no reason to change the action already had upon the same subject by the General Conference.

W. J. FINLEY, *Chairman*.  
B. S. BIBB,  
C. E. CRENSHAW,  
F. H. M. HENDERSON,  
F. H. WHITAKER.

The Report of the Committee on Temperance was taken up, read, amended and adopted, as follows:

\* Reported since.



# MINUTES OF THE CONVENTION

## ON THE

# BOOK CONCERN AND PERIODICAL,

## HELD MAY 5th, 1874.

The Convention was organized by calling Chas. W. Button to the Chair. Rev. Wm. S. Hammond was chosen Secretary.

The Report of the Board of Directors of the Book Concern was referred to a Committee, consisting of one member from each Annual Conference, as follows:

North Carolina.—John Paris.	Georgia.—J. W. Adamson.
Maryland.—W. B. Usilton	Alabama.—B. S. Bibb.
West Virginia.—Geo. Nestor.	Tennessee.—William Collins.
Virginia.—George R. Barr.	Texas.—G. W. Johnson.
South Carolina.—John Burdine.	

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BOOK CONCERN TO THE CONVENTION OF 1874.

*To the President and Members of the Convention having charge of the Methodist Protestant Book Concern and Periodical.*

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Board of Directors, as required by their act of incorporation, and the regulations in accordance therewith, respectfully submit for your consideration the following report:

#### GENERAL VIEW OF THE BUSINESS OF THE CONCERN.

#### 1. *Estimated worth of Concern, March 1st, 1874:*

Ledge accounts.....	\$813 05	
Merchandise, (stock on hand, ).....	1,985 14	
Baltimore City Stock.....	2,500 00	
Cash .....	1,014 86	
		\$6,313 05

#### LIABILITIES.

Ledge Accounts.....	809 22	
Amount due 2,834 Subscribers, aggregating 867 full subscribers, for one year, to the Methodist Protestant .....	1,647 30	
		2,456 52

Net worth of Concern, March 1st, 1874.....\$3,856 53

#### 2. *Estimated worth of Concern, March 1st, 1870:*

Bill receivable.....	\$1,312 88	
Merchandise, (stock on hand).....	1,682 34	
Baltimore City Stock.....	2,500 00	
Cash.....	1,860 45	
	7,355 67	
Liabilities .....	188 85	
		7,166 82

Net loss in four years was.....\$3,310 29



### Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries, adopted :

Having had the letter of John Sexsmith of Illinois and Des Moines District under consideration, for want of sufficient information we deem no action advisable.

The same Committee further report as follows :

Understanding that the former Louisiana District has been united with the Southern part of Arkansas and Louisiana District; therefore, we recommend that the Disciplinary statement of boundaries be so amended as to conform to the facts in the case.

It was made the duty of the Secretary to engross the proceedings of the General Conference, and to transcribe them for the publishing committee, by order of the Conference.

It was made the duty of the Book Directory or Publishing Committee to have the Minutes, thus furnished, published in pamphlet form, and forward two copies to each member of the Conference.

### Report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations :

Your Committee have heard, with great pleasure, the very interesting and Christian address of Rev. Wesley Kenney, D. D., fraternal messenger from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and rejoice to know that a warmer Christian regard and love is obtaining among the different branches of the Methodist family.

Your Committee likewise take great pleasure in recognizing in our midst the presence of Rev. James Robison, book agent, and Rev. Alexander Clarke, Editor of the Methodist Recorder, visitors from the Methodist Church, and have heard with great pleasure their very Christian addresses. Therefore,

*Resolved 1st.* That this General Conference appoint two fraternal messengers (one ministerial and lay,) to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

*Resolved 2d.* That this General Conference appoint two fraternal messengers to the next General Conference of the Methodist Church; and two to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South—the several messengers to convey to these several bodies our fraternal greetings and Christian regards as co-laborers with us in spreading holiness over these lands.

Appointments under the instructions contained in the above Resolutions :

1st. To the G. Conference of the M. E. Church, Rev. T. D. Valiant and C. W. Button.

2nd. To the G. Conference of the Methodist Church, Rev. A. C. Harris, M. D., and Rev. George Nestor.

3rd. To the G. Conference of the M. E. Church, South, Rev. G. R. Barr, D. D., and Rev. David Wilson, M. D.

On motion of J. J. Murray and E. J. Drinkhouse, it was ordered that the Benediction on page 146 be made to conform to that on page 140.

The General Conference closed its labors and adjourned, to meet again in Abingdon, Va., on the first Friday in May, 1878.

Prayer by Rev. M. J. Langhorne. Benediction pronounced by Rev. John Paris.

A. C. HARRIS, *Secretary.*



influence of the literature of other like organizations. It must have a literature of its own,

SECTION 1. With these premises we propose the following plan to recuperate the Book Concern.

*Item 1.*—A cash capital of \$20,000 shall be raised, apportioning to each of the Annual Conferences in the Connection an amount to be raised by it, proportionate to the number of its membership. \$15,000 to be invested in the purchase of a business house, stock and furniture of a store.

\$5,000 to be held as a reserve, and placed on interest, to meet, at the end of each year, for four years from the sitting of this General Conference, the liabilities, if any, that may be in excess of the profits of the business of the Concern.

2. Whatever amount of this reserve fund, together with the interest thereon, may be left at the expiration of that period, may be added to the capital, at the discretion of the General Conference.

3. Whatever profits may arise at the end of each fiscal year, shall be added to the capital until said capital shall amount to \$25,000. This amount in excess of the original capital of \$20,000, shall be credited to the Annual Conferences in shares *pro rata* to the amount already held by each. The profits of the Concern, subsequently arising, may be devoted to the publication of Church literature.

4. The Book Concern shall be located on the first floor, in an eligible locality, on a principal thoroughfare, in the city of Baltimore.

5. A board of Trustees shall be created by the General Conference, composed of at least nine persons, members of the Methodist Protestant Church, four of whom shall be ministers and five laymen. Five members of the Board shall be in connection with Churches of the Maryland Annual Conference. Three ministers and two laymen shall constitute a quorum for business.

6. The Book Concern shall be incorporated under the name "The Trustees of the Book Concern of the Methodist Protestant Church in the United States," and as such shall have plenary powers under the instructions of the General Conference.

7. The Board of Trustees shall elect a Treasurer outside of their own number, but a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, who shall give bond.

8. An Auditing Committee, composed of three laymen, shall be appointed by the General Conference, to audit said Treasurer's account annually. Their report to be presented to the General Conference at its first meeting.

9. The Board of Trustees shall have power to appoint an agent to manage the the concern at a fixed salary of \$1200 per annum; besides this they shall allow him ten per centum of all the profits of the business.

10. The agent shall have the power to employ such assistance as the business may require.

11. The Board of Trustees shall report annually the condition of the Book Concern, together with the Treasurer's account audited, to each Annual Conference when in Session, and also to the General Conference at its sittings.

12. The cash capital of \$20,000, before provided for, shall be raised under the direction of the Board of Trustees, in the following manner: The amount shall be divided into shares of one dollar each—to be taken one or more—by individuals, Sunday Schools or Churches. The party holding five or more shares, shall be entitled to five per cent. of his stock at its real value at the time, in books from the Book Concern Annually, at the regular retail prices.

13. The President of each Annual Conference may be constituted an authorized agent to secure the aforementioned shares, and report to the Treasurer of the Book Concern.

14. The Board of Trustees, through their President and Treasurer, shall issue certificates of stock.

In case any Annual Conference should fail at the expiration of one year, to take shares of the aforementioned \$20,000, to the amount of its apportionment, nothing herein provided shall prevent any individual, Annual Conference or any other party from taking said shares.

15. Whenever \$15,000 shall have been secured, business may be commenced on ten thousand dollars; the balance to be held in reserve as before provided for.

SECTION 2, *Item 1.* The Committee, in order to advance the interest of the Church paper, suggests that the General Conference appoint a competent Editor,



Showing an average loss for each year of \$827.57.

The loss for the year just closed was \$1,019.80, which further shows that our losses are increasing.

The item of amount due subscribers \$1,647.30, has not heretofore been estimated, a "liability," the "good will" or "list" of the Concern being considered a just offset

### 3. *Subscription to the Methodist Protestant*

Number of Subscribers March 1st, 1871.....	3,260
an increase over 1870 of 75.	
Number of Subscribers March 1st, 1872.....	3,374
an increase over 1871 of 114.	
Number of Subscribers March 1st, 1873.....	3,254
a decrease on 1872 of 120.	
Number of Subscribers March 1st, 1874.....	2,834
a decrease on 1873 of 420.	

### 4. *Management of Methodist Protestant.*

On the 3rd of April, 1871, the Directory elected Rev. J. T. Murray, D. D., editor, at a salary not to exceed \$800 per annum; which position he filled till March, 1872, and received for his services the supposed or real profits of the Concern for the year ending March, 1872, amounting to \$462.95.

On the 11th of April, 1872, the Directory elected Rev. L. W. Bates, D. D., Editor for one year, without compensation, which position he held till 20th May, 1873, when he resigned, since which time the paper has been conducted under the management of an Editorial Committee, composed of Dr. L. W. Bates, Dr. A. Webster, Dr. S. B. Southerland and Dr. J. T. Murray.

### 5. *Increase in Price of Hymn Books.*

The Board found by comparison that our Congregation Hymn books were being sold for much less than similar publications of other denominations, and, after proper consideration, made the following advance on retail prices, dating from May 20th, 1873:

Sheep edition 75 cents, formerly 60 cents.
Roan edition \$1.25, formerly \$1.00.
Morocco edition \$1.75, formerly \$1.25.
Turkey Morocco edition \$2.25, formerly \$1.75.

### 6. *Changes in the Board, January 19, 1872.*

Beale H. Richardson in place of Edward C. Thomas, deceased, and Wm. J. C. Dulany, in place of L. J. Cox, Jr., resigned.

Invoking God's blessing upon the result of your deliberations, we are

Your brethren in Christ,

D. EVANS REESE,  
GEORGE W. TAYLOR,  
JOHN G. CLARKE,  
B. H. RICHARDSON,

A. WEBSTER,  
L. W. BATES,  
WM. H. GRIFFITH,  
WM. J. C. DULANY.

The report of a Committee of the Maryland Annual Conference, who had under consideration measures for the recuperation of the Book Concern was read, and on motion was referred to the above Committee:

The Committee appointed by the Maryland Annual Conference, at its sittings March, 1874, to devise a plan to recuperate the Book Concern and Church Paper, to be submitted to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, to be held in May, 1874, respectfully submit the following:

The Membership of the Methodist Protestant Church numbers about forty thousand, and is gradually increasing. With this increase the territory, wealth, learning and influence of the Church are increasing. The Church needs, and we believe is able to sustain, an efficient Book Concern and Church paper. This need grows out of the desirability of maintaining a distinct Church organization. No religious denomination can long maintain its distinctive features under the sole



MONDAY, *May 11th*, 1874.

The Convention met at 12½ o'clock, P. M.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Book Concern and Periodical was resumed.

On motion, G. R. Barr was relieved from service on the Committee, and M. J. Langhorne was substituted.

On motion the Report of the Committee was recommitted.

A paper signed by D. W. Bates and John Paris, in respect to a change in the form of the Periodical, was referred to the Committee. Convention adjourned

Convention convened at 8½ o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Book Concern and Periodical, having made some changes in their Report, again presented it to the Convention, when, after discussion, it was adopted as follows:

The Committee on the Book Concern and Church Paper, having considered the subject with careful deliberation, and looked at the question with all the light before us, have reached the following conclusion.

1. That while we believe the Paper and Book Concern have been managed by brethren in whose rectitude of character we have entire confidence, still a serious loss to the concern, has accrued, as the report of the Book Directory to this Convention, shows that within the past four years, a loss of something over \$3,300 has taken place.

Your Committee are well aware that all enterprises of such a character, are subject to such reverses as the financial stringency of the times and the country may produce.

2. Feeling the importance of a Church literature of our own, we regard it as a necessity that should stimulate every friend of the Methodist Protestant Church, to lend his best influence and contribute his support to such measures as the Convention may desire, to promote this desirable end; and while we regret the present unprosperous condition of the Book Concern and Periodical, we have reached the conclusion that we cannot recommend the plan proposed by a committee of the Maryland Conference, and referred to us by the Convention, as it does not commend itself to our judgment as being practicable under present circumstances. But we have concluded to recommend for your adoption the following plan, as better calculated to promote the object desired.

1. In reference to the Book Concern, to secure the services of some one established in business in the Book trade, as agent, who shall furnish office room for the Book Concern and Periodical, light and fuel; and shall have exclusive control of the business of the Book Concern, keeping always on hand an ample supply of our Church Hymn Books and Disciplines. As compensation for his services and the facilities furnished the Periodicals and Editor, he shall have the use of the copy-rights and plates of the Book Concern.

In entering into this arrangement he may purchase the present stock in trade of the Concern at the just valuation of three disinterested persons in the book trade.

2. The Convention shall elect a new Directory, whose duty it shall be to carry into effect the measures herein proposed.

The Convention shall also elect an Editor, who shall have charge of the Church paper and manage all the business pertaining thereto.

The Directory shall exercise a general supervision and control of the publishing interests of the Church. They shall fix the salary of the Editor, and act for this Convention in the interim of its sittings in any matter relating to its publishing interest; and should said Directory fail in perfecting the arrangements herein proposed, then full authority is herein given for the adoption of any other plan that will best subserve the interests of the Methodist Protestant Church.

And we would recommend these arrangements to go into effect, at as early a day as may be found practicable.



on a fixed salary of twelve hundred dollars, to be guaranteed by the General Conference, which shall have power to assess the Annual Conferences for the amount of any deficiency of the same annually, until the profits arising from the paper are sufficient to meet it in full.

After that event, the Editor shall be allowed fifty per cent. on all profits arising from the paper, until his entire salary shall amount to \$2500.

2. The Editor shall have the charge and responsibility of the Church paper, as Editor and publisher; to receive and disburse all moneys accruing from the same; and the paper shall be self-sustaining, with the exception of the Editor's salary as before-mentioned: and, except said salary of \$1200, the Editor shall be individually responsible for all liabilities in conducting the paper.

3. The publisher's books shall be accessible to all subscribers, and patrons of the paper.

4. All the net profits arising from the paper, shall be devoted to the improvement of the same, until otherwise ordered by the General Conference.

5. The subscription price of the paper shall never exceed two dollars per annum.

6. All travelling preachers shall be furnished with the paper at half price.

7. The office of publication shall be in the same building with the Book Concern.

This plan shall go into immediate effect.

JOHN ROBERTS,  
E. R. MCGREGOR,  
P. LIGHT. WILSON,  
J. W. CHARLTON.

On motion of Rev. D. W. Bates, the Committee was requested to consider the propriety of changing the form of the Church Periodical to a Quarto, and certain papers were referred, viz: the following letter:

BALTIMORE, April 1st, 1874.

"REV. D. W. BATES,

"*Dear Sir,*—To increase the *Protestant* to the size of the *Methodist Recorder*, would be to add matter equal to 7 4-5 of the *Protestant's* columns, to its present size.

"The difference between the *Protestant's* capacity, as now printed, and that of the paper as proposed to be enlarged, is as 28 is to 35 4-5. The difference in the weekly cost of printing would be about \$10.

"As the change would involve the necessity of procuring a different set of rules, chases, &c., &c., as you will see the columns must be narrower as well as shorter. I would use nothing but the type in the make-up of the *Protestant*, as it is proposed to change it; the expense in this department would be somewhere between \$100 and \$150.

I have the honor to remain, Your obedient servant,

JESSE F. CHESNEY."

The Convention adjourned, subject to the call of the Chairman.

May 8th, 1874.

The Convention met at 4 o'clock, P. M., the President in the Chair.

The Committee on the Book Concern and Periodical, made a Report, which on motion was taken up by items.

The business before the Convention was suspended, and on motion of Dr. Murray, the Revs. J. Robison and Alexander Clarke, were invited to address the Convention, at some time to be designated hereafter.

The Convention adjourned with Benediction by Rev. D. W. Bates.